-40-

THERMOSTABLE CELLULOSE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed are variant thermostable cellulases, nucleic acids encoding the variants and methods for producing the variants. The variant thermostable cellulases have the amino acid sequence of a glycosyl hydrolase of family 12 wherein one or more amino acid residues which are not part of the catalytic domain are deleted. In specific embodiments, the variant thermostable cellulase is a variant of Cel12A of *Rhodothermus marinus*.